

M A I

4. Important; forcible. *Shaksp. Henry VI.*

This young prince, with a train of young noblemen and gentlemen, but not with any *main* army, came over to take possession of his new patrimony. *Davies on Ireland.*

Believ'ft fo *main* to our fuccels, I bring. *Milt. Par. Loft.*
 MAIN. *n. f.*
 1. The grofs; the bulk; the greater part.
 The *main* of them may be reduced to language, and an

2. The sum; the whole; the general.
They allowed the liturgy and government of the church

These notions concerning coinage have, for the *main*, been put into writing above twelve months. *Locke.*

3. The ocean,
A substitute shines brightly as a king,
Until a king be by; and then his state
Exceeds his title; and he preys on kings.

Into the main of waters. *Shakesp. Merchant of Venice.*
Where's the king?
Bids the wind blow the earth into the sea:

Bids the wind blow the earth into the sea ;
Or swell the curled waters 'bove the main,
That things might change. *Shakespeare's King Lear.*

He fell, and struggling in the *main*,
Cry'd out for helping hands, but cry'd in vain. *Dryden.*
Say, why should the collected *main*

Say, why should the collected *main*
 Itself within itself contain?
 Why to its caverns should it sometimes creep,
 And wish delighted glances deep.

And with delighted silence sleep
On the lov'd bosom of its parent deep? *Prior.* }

4. Violence; force.

He 'gan advance
With huge force, and infuportable main,
And towards him with dreadful fury prance

And towards him with dreadful fury prance. *Fa. Qu.*
With might and main
He hasted to get up again. *Hudibras, p. i.*

With might and *main* they chac'd the murd'rous fox,
 With brazen trumpets, and inflated box.
 5. [From *manus*, Latin.] A hand at dice.

5. [From *manus*, Latin.] A hand at dice.
 Were it good,
 To set the exact wealth of all our states
 All at one cast; to fit for rich and poor

All at one cast; to set so rich a main
In the nice hazard of one doubtful hour.
To pass our tedious hours away,

Shakespeare.

Writing is but just like dice,
And lucky *mains* make people wise:

And lucky *mains* make people wise :
That jumbled words, if fortune throw them,
Shall, well as Dryden, form a poem. *Prior.*

6. The continent.
In 1589 we turned challengers, and invaded the main of Spain.
Bacon's War with Spain.

7. A hamper. *Ainf.* *Bacon's War with Spain.*
 MA'INLAND. *n. f.* [*main* and *land*.] Continent.
 Ne was it is land then, ne was it is the

Ne was it island then, ne was it pays'd
Amid the ocean waves,
But was all desolate, and of some thought,

By sea to have been from the Celtick mainland brought.
Fairy Queen, b. ii.
 Those whom Tyber's holy forests hide

Or Circe's hills from the *mainland* divide. Dryden's *Æn.*

Inductive *mainly* to the sin of Eve. *Milton's Par. L. 4*

The metallic matter now found in the perpendicular intervals of the strata, was originally *Milton's Par. Lost.*
More.

intervals of the strata, was originally lodged in the bodies of those strata, being interspersed amongst the matter, whereof the said strata mainly consist.

2. Greatly; powerfully. *Woodward's Nat. Hist.*
It was observed by one, that himself came hardly to a little riches, and very easily to great riches: for when

the riches, and very easily to great riches: for when a man's flock is come to that, that he can expect the prime of markets, and overcome those bargains, which, for their greatness, are few men's money, and

MA'INMAST, *n. f.* [*main* and *maß.*] The chief or middle mast.

One dire shot,
Clos'd by the board the prince's mainmast.

A Dutchman, upon breaking his leg by a fall from a main-
mast, told the standers by, it was a mercy it was not his
neck.

neck. *It was a mercy it was not his*
MA'INPERNABLE. *adj.* *Spectator, N^o. 574-*
 surety. *that may be admitted to give*

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